PEO ACWA

PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE, ASSEMBLED CHEMICAL WEAPONS ALTERNATIVES

MISSION: The safe elimination of chemical weapons at Pueblo and Blue Grass by Dec. 31, 2023.

OVERVIEW

The Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PEO ACWA) is overseeing the safe and environmentally compliant destruction of the remaining U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. Headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, the ACWA program is a U.S. Department of Defense-managed Major Defense Acquisition Program. Located respectively at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot in Pueblo, Colorado and the Blue Grass Army Depot near Richmond, Kentucky, PEO ACWA's destruction facilities are the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) and Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP). Both sites are actively destroying chemical weapons and current destruction data can be found on the PEO ACWA website. Additionally, PEO ACWA maintains a supporting field office on the Anniston Army Depot in Anniston, Alabama. ACWA remains committed to completing stockpile destruction operations by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty commitment of Sept. 30, 2023. U.S. Public Law mandates stockpile destruction by Dec. 31, 2023.

CONNECT WITH PEO ACWA

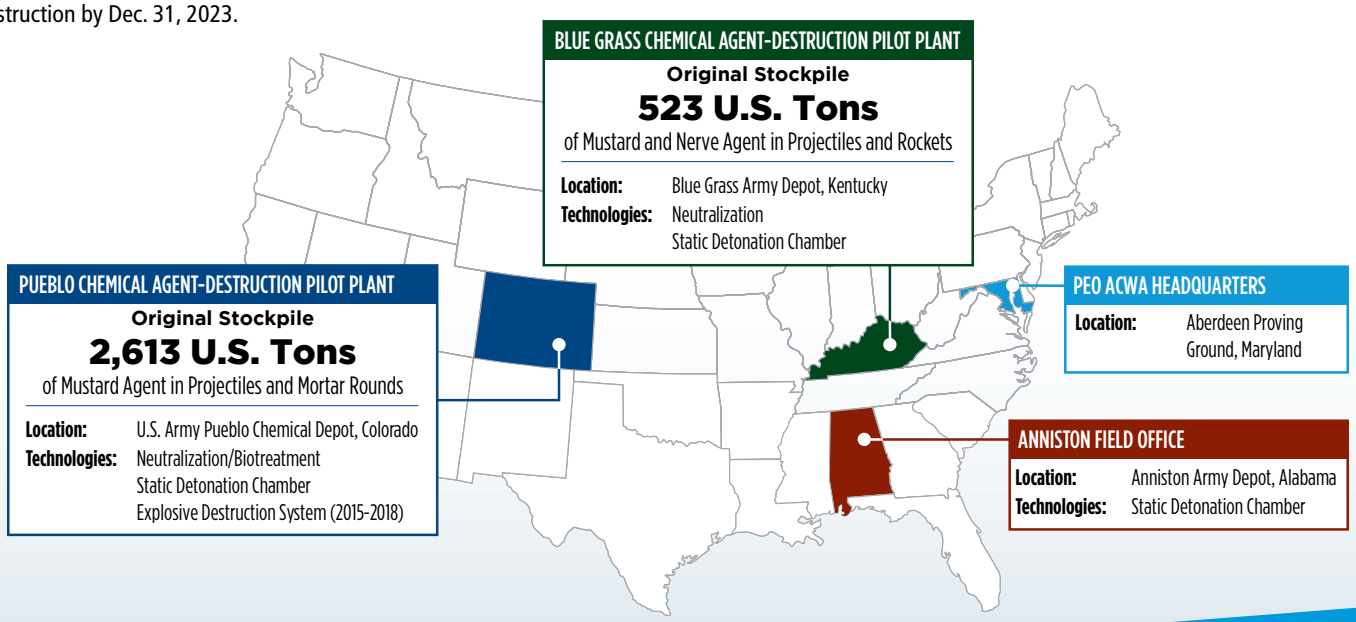
For PEO ACWA news and information, visit our website at www.peoacwa.army.mil. For an overview of the program, watch the U.S. Chemical Weapons Destruction 2021 video on the ACWA YouTube channel.

Sign Up Sign up for *Connect with ACWA* e-newsletters.

Subscribe Subscribe to PEO ACWA's YouTube channel for progress updates and Citizens' Advisory Commission public meetings.

For more information, contact Katherine DeWeese at (410) 306-4024 or katherine.b.deweese.civ@army.mil.

peoacwa | acwanews | usaeacwa | acwa | peoacwa



A PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION

PUEBLO CHEMICAL AGENT-DESTRUCTION PILOT PLANT (PCAPP)

ACWA

BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL AGENT-DESTRUCTION PILOT PLANT (BGCAPP)

PCAPP OVERVIEW

PCAPP is destroying 2,613 U.S. tons of mustard agent stored in artillery projectiles and mortar rounds using neutralization followed by biotreatment or an Explosive Destruction Technology. In 2002, PEO ACWA selected the Bechtel Pueblo Team as the systems contractor responsible for the design, construction, systemization, pilot testing, operations and closure of the pilot plant. Operations are scheduled to conclude by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty commitment of Sept. 30, 2023. U.S. Public Law mandates stockpile destruction by Dec. 31, 2023.

Colorado Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2021 Year in Review

PCAPP EXPLOSIVE DESTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

The Static Detonation Chamber was selected and permitted to destroy the more than 97,000 mortar rounds and problematic munitions unsuited for processing by the main plant's automated disassembly systems. In 2020, assembly of three Static Detonation Chamber units was completed at the plant and systemization began. The Explosive Destruction System, another form of explosive destruction technology, destroyed problematic munitions in Pueblo from 2015 to 2018.

Static Detonation Chamber: How it Works

STATIC DETONATION CHAMBER

An Explosive Destruction Technology munitions handler prepares a pallet of mustard munitions for loading into the Blue Grass Static Detonation Chamber.

BGCAPP is destroying 523 U.S. tons of the nerve agents VX and GB, or Sarin, and mustard agent stored in rockets and projectiles using neutralization or an Explosive Destruction Technology. In 2003, the Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass team was awarded a systems contract responsible for the design, construction, systemization, operations and closure of the facility. The main plant, where nerve agent munitions are being destroyed, began operations on Jan. 17, 2020. Operations are scheduled to conclude by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty commitment of Sept. 30, 2023. U.S. Public Law mandates stockpile destruction by Dec. 31, 2023.

Kentucky Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2021 Year in Review

BGCAPP EXPLOSIVE DESTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

An X-ray assessment of the Blue Grass mustard stockpile confirmed the solidification of agent in a number of projectiles, rendering them unsuitable for automated processing in the main plant. Static Detonation Chamber technology was selected to destroy all of the mustard projectiles, as well as two 3-gallon Department of Transportation bottles containing mustard agent. Static Detonation Chamber units were selected to process drained rocket warheads and overpacked munitions from the stockpile to augment main plant destruction in Kentucky. Destruction of mustard munitions by the Static Detonation Chamber began on June 7, 2019, and concluded Sept. 4, 2021.

Static Detonation Chamber Increases Workforce Safety